Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 06944 031757Z
ACTION AID-31

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01 L-03 H-01
IO-13 SP-02 EB-08 COME-00 /070 W
----------106136 031849Z /45
P 031752Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6262

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 06944

E.O. 11652: GDS
SUBJECT: GOE PRICING POLICY

REFERENCES: A) STATE 053632, B) CAIRO 06738

1. REF B) PROVIDES SOME OF INFORMATION REQUESTED IN REF A). WE SEEKING OBTAIN ADDITIONAL COMMODITY PRICE INCREASE DETAILS REFERRED TO PARA 9 REF B), BUT UNLIKELY THIS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO YOU BY MARCH 6. SHOULD NOTE THAT WE EXPECT GOE MAY BE SENSITIVE TO PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF ANTICIPATED COMMODITY SPECIFIC PRICE INCREASES. (FOLLOWING JAN 1977 RIOTS, GOE HAS NOT WISHED TO HIGHLIGHT PRICE INCREASES BEFORE (OR AFTER) THEIR OCCURRENCE.) ALTHOUGH WE WELCOME THESE GOE STATEMENTS OF PURPOSE AND BELIEVE US ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS HAVE HELPED CREATE SETTING IN WHICH GOE PLANS HAVE EVOLVED FAVORABLY, WE DOUBT IT WOULD BE WISE TO SUGGEST THAT PRICE INCREASES ARE ASSOCIATED WITH US ADVICE TO, MUCH LESS WITH US OR IMF PRESSURE ON, GOE.

2. IN GENERAL, WE BELIEVE MOST SIGNIFICANT SPECIFIC STEPS PROJECTED TO BE TAKEN BY GOE ARE PRICE INCREASES TOTALING LE 50 MILLION AT END 1977, AND LE 107 MILLION SO FAR IN 1978, DECENTRALIZATION OF PRICE DECISION-MAKING TO MANY INDIVIDUAL ENTERPRISES (WHICH INHERENTLY WILL LEAD TO FURTHER PRICE RATIONALIZATION), LIMITATION THAT WAGE INCREASES WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO ABSORB ALL OF INCREASED
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INCOME ENTERPRISES WILL RECEIVE FROM PRICE INCREASES, AND EXPECTATION THAT INDIVIDUAL ENTERPRISES WILL HAVE GREATER CONTROL OF THEIR OWN CASH FLOW.

3. WILL ADVISE WHEN FURTHER DETAILS AVAILABLE. EILTS

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Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: ETRD, EG
To: STATE
Type: TE
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